

Employment in Rhode Island -2002

Rhode Island's average annual employment declined in 2002, ending ten consecutive years of employment growth. Total average employment decreased by 263 (-0.06%) jobs falling from a record high of 468,714 in 2001 to 468,451 in 2002. Private sector employment totaled 404,079 and represented 86.3 percent of the State's total covered employment. The

Government sector - Federal, State and Local government employment - reported 64,372 jobs, representing 13.7 percent of the state's covered employment. Private sector employment declined by 891 (-0.2%) jobs over 2002, while Government added 628 (+1.0%) jobs partially offsetting the Private sector loss.

Rhode Island Covered Employment and Wages

2002-Statewide Employment by NAICS

	Number of Units	Average Employment	Total Wages	Average Annual Wage
Total Employment	34,187	468,451	\$16,293,164,345	\$34,781
Total Private Only	33,501	404,079	\$13,426,001,798	\$33,226
Total Government	676	64,372	\$ 2,867,162,547	\$44,541

Establishments in the Health Care & Social Assistance sector (68,148) employed the most Rhode Islanders, followed by Government (64,372) and Manufacturing (62,159). Utilities (1,159), Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting (756) and Mining (223) units employed the least number of workers.

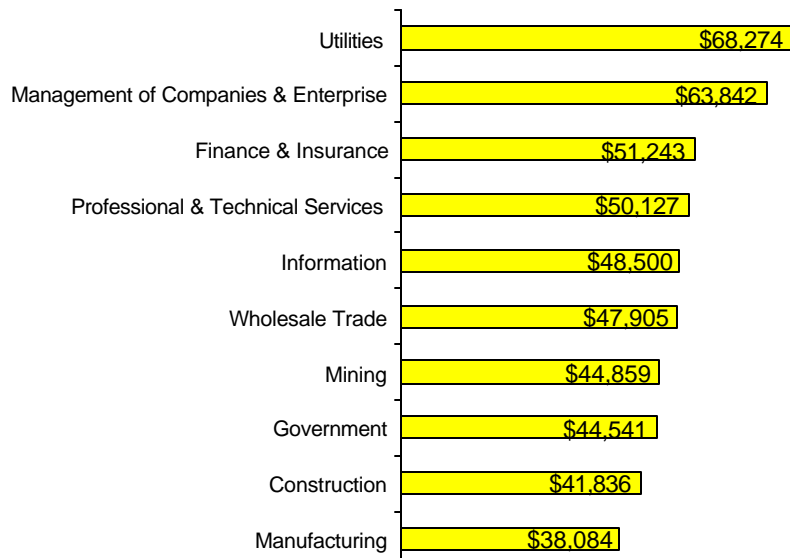
Health Care & Social Assistance (+1,732) led the twenty NAICS sectors in job growth, up 2.6 percent from its 2001 level. Ambulatory Health Care Services (+825) added the most jobs in the sector, followed by Nursing & Residential Care Facilities (+437). The Retail Trade (+1,031), Accommodation & Food Services (+983) and Educational Services (+483) sectors also reported sizeable job gains in 2002.

Manufacturing (-5,421) employment declined for the eighteenth straight year, down 8 percent from its 2001 level. Nineteen of the twenty-one manufacturing subsectors reported job losses, including Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-971), Fabricated Metal Products (-825) and Computer & Electronic Products (-702). The Administrative & Waste Services (-1,051) sector also reported a sizable decline.

While the average annual employment declined in 2002, total wages rose 3.5 percent, totaling nearly \$16.3 billion. The average annual Private sector wage was \$33,226, up 3.2 percent from last year, while Government employees earned an average annual wage of

\$44,541, a 4.7 percent increase from a year ago. The highest average annual wages were paid in the Utilities (\$68,274) and Management of Companies & Enterprise (\$63,842) sectors followed by Finance & Insurance (\$51,243) and Professional & Technical Services (\$50,127). The lowest average annual wages were reported in Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (\$19,530), and Accommodation & Food Services (\$13,904), reflecting the seasonal and part time nature of these businesses.

Top Industries by Average Annual Wage



*Employment changes may be influenced by noneconomic code changes resulting from SIC revisions
And/or changes in employers' reporting methods.*

A Product of: **Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training**
Labor Market Information Unit

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